

**PATENT COOPERATION TREATY**

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| To:<br><br>GREENE-KELLY, James, Patrick<br>Lloyd Wise<br>Tanjong Pagar<br>P O Box 636<br>Singapore 910816<br>Singapore | LLOYD WISE<br>04 JAN 2005<br>RECEIVED<br>INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY |
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WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY  
(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

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|   |  | Date of mailing<br>(day/month/year) 28 December 2004 (28.12.2004) |
| Applicant's or agent's file reference<br>FP2143   |  | FOR FURTHER ACTION<br>See paragraph 2 below                       |
| International application No.<br>PCT/SG 2004/000023   | International filing date (day/month/year)<br>21 January 2004 (21.01.2004) | Priority Date (day/month/year)<br>21 August 2003 (21.08.2003)     |
| International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC<br>H01R 25/14 |  |   |
| Applicant<br>NUTEK PRIVATE LIMITED  |  |   |

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- Cont. No. I Basis of the opinion
- Cont. No. II Priority
- Cont. No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- Cont. No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- Cont. No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- Cont. No. VI Certain documents cited
- Cont. No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- Cont. No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

2. FURTHER ACTION

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

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| Name and mailing address of the ISA/ AT<br><b>Austrian Patent Office</b><br>Dresdner Straße 87, A-1200 Vienna<br><br>Facsimile No. +43 / 1 / 534 24 / 535 | Authorized officer<br><br>KOSKARTI F.<br><br>Telephone No. +43 / 1 / 534 24 / 326 |
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WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.  
PCT/SG 2004/000023

**Continuation No. I**

**Basis of the opinion**

1. With regard to the language, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed.
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**Continuation No. IV:**

**Lack of unity of invention**

In response to the invitation (Form PCT/ISA/206) to pay additional fees the applicant has paid additional fees.

3. This Authority considers that the requirement of unity of invention in accordance with Rule 13.1, 13.2 and 13.3 is not complied with for the following reasons:

The electrical connectors disclosed in claims 37 to 50 do not disclose special technical features required to cooperate with the electrical power distribution system described in claims 1 to 36.

4. Consequently, this opinion has been established in respect of the following parts of the international application: all parts.
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**Continuation No. V**

**Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**

1. Statement

|                               |             |     |
|-------------------------------|-------------|-----|
| Novelty (N)                   | Claims 1-50 | YES |
|                               | Claims ---- | NO  |
| Inventive step (IS)           | Claims 1-50 | YES |
|                               | Claims ---- | NO  |
| Industrial applicability (IA) | Claims 1-50 | YES |
|                               | Claims ---- | NO  |

2. Citations and explanations:

Document **US 3704437 A** discloses a current distribution rail. The rail comprises a C-shaped section with elongated conductors at the inside. According to one embodiment (see fig. 2) the conductors are protected by sealing lips.

However, the document does not disclose a plurality of conductive members disposed between the opening and the conductors whereby said conductive members are resiliently displaceable.

Document **JP 52-118297 A** discloses a distribution railing device with elongated conductors. The access opening for the conductors is closed by a flexible lip.

However, the document does not disclose a plurality of conductive members disposed between the opening and the conductors whereby said conductive members are resiliently displaceable.

Thus, the subject matter of claims 1 to 36 is regarded to be new and inventive with respect to the documents cited. The industrial applicability is given.

Document **DE 3245384 A1** discloses an electrical current supply bus-bar comprising a casing which is of rectangular C-shape in cross-section. The back surface has projecting lips enabling it to be attached either to a wall or to the ceiling. An insulating support carries the conductors, arranged one above the other behind the two free edges of the C-section casing. They are not accessible directly through the front slot to avoid possible danger. Sockets which may be connected along the bus-bar have a projecting central portion which passes between the two sets of conductors, and a contact plate which then can be rotated behind the bus-bars. When inserted into the slot the arm is rotated by 90° to engage with the conductors.

Though the document discloses a switch as can be seen in fig. 6 the switch is actuated manually and is not dependent on the position of the rotatable arm. Further the document does not disclose a connector for power inlet.

Thus claim 37 to 50 are considered new and inventive with respect to the document cited.

Document **WO 1993/019506 A1** discloses a voltage rail comprising insulated back and front walls with parallel conducting paths extending along cavities between the two walls. An adapter comprises contacts connected to a rotatably mount so that they can be located in one pair of cavities but not in contact with the rail which occurs with a further rotation. The adapter may be connected to a cable to form a plug. A socket comprising the same mounting mechanism is also disclosed.

However, the document does not disclose a switching device built into the adaptor or socket. Further the document does not disclose a connector for power inlet.

Thus claim 37 to 50 are considered new and inventive with respect to the document cited.

Summarizing, the subject matter of claims 1 to 50 is regarded new and inventive. Industrial applicability is given.